Ultrasonographic Evaluation of Selected Tendons in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis

Thesis

Submitted for Fulfillment of the Requirement of M.D. Degree in Internal Medicine.

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2014

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

{قَالُوا سُبْحَانَكَ لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا إِلَّا
مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَلِيمُ
الْحَكِيمُ} (البقرة ٣٢)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The making of this MD thesis has been a challenging, exciting and educational experience both professionally and personally.

The study is based on both clinical, imaging and laboratory results and could not have been carried out without the help of numerous persons whom I wish to thank for their efforts and support throughout the study.

I would like to thank **prof. Gaafar Mohamed Ragab**, professor of internal medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University, for introducing me to ultrasound. His care, perfectionism and invaluable experience were of much guidance to me. I much benefited from his creative thinking, valuable suggestions and constructive criticism.

I deeply thank my mentor and supervisor, **prof. Hala Ibrahim El-Gendy**, professor of internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University. She had set the plan, followed the steps of the work, critically discussed the results and taught me the scientific attitude. Making this thesis would not have been possible without her expert knowledge, support and friendship.

I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation toward **prof. Hatem Mohamed El-Azizi**, assistant professor of diagnostic radiology, Cairo University for his kindness, sympathy and cooperation to achieve this work.

I would like to thank **Dr. Adham AF M Khalil** for his kindness, support and cooperation to achieve this work. **Dr. Adham** is very skilful and

takes pride in his work, which stimulates learning for people around him. He offers the help needed and gives the space to learn.

The patient handling and statistical help from Dr. Abeer Atia, assistant lecturer of community, Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University, was always supportive and greatly appreciated.

My deepest appreciation and inexpressible gratitude to my family for their never ending support and care.

This work was done by and for the sake of patients, May Allah alleviate their suffering and accept our honest intention to dedicate this work for the sake of their own benefit. I hope this work offers a chance for a better state of health which they deserve after their long pains and suffering.

To my parents for without their everlasting love, encouragement & sacrifices, this work would never have been completed

Content

Abstract

Title:

Ultrasonographic Evaluation of Selected Tendons in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis.

Background:

The physical examination provides only limited information on the presence and extent of tendon pathology in RA patients and tenosynovitis is often misinterpreted as joint inflammation.

Objectives:

To evaluate the prevalence of tendon involvement in rheumatoid arthritis patients, compare the ultrasound finding with clinical examination and determine the factors that potentially associated with a more frequent tendon involvement in RA patients.

Methods:

30 patients with RA and 20 healthy controls matched by age, sex and body mass index (BMI) are subjected to; history and clinical examination, ultrasonography examination of shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand & knee joints. The RA patient are subjected to; measurement of the disease activity, laboratory measurement of serum rheumatoid factor & ESR, and X-ray wrist, hand & feet.

Results:

In this study, nearly 20 (66.7%) of the 30 recruited patients showed at least one inflamed tendon, in 12 (40%) of them damage was detected in at least one tendon, while in only one patient tendon enthesitis was detected.

Conclusion:

The present study provides prevalence of ultrasound detected tendon abnormalities in RA patients, and being the US can be time-consuming, the identification of the most commonly affected sites may facilitate US examination that can be focused on the target tendons in RA.

Key wards:

Ultrasound (US), Power Doppler Sonography (PDS), rheumatoid arthritis (RA), Tendons.

List of Abbreviation

ACPA	Anti citrulline protein antibodies
ACR	American College of Rheumatology
Anti-CCP	Anti‑cyclic citrullinated peptide
Anti-MCV	Anti-mutated citrullinated vimentin
APCs	Antigen presenting cells
APL	Abductor pollicis longus
AS	Ankylosing spondylitis
A-SAA	Serum amyloid A protein
BMI	Body mass index
CD	Color Doppler
CDAI	Clinical disease activity index
CE	Clinical examination
CET	Compartment extensor tendon
CMC	Carpometacarpal joint
CRP	C-reactive protein
CT	Computed tomography
DAS	Disease activity score
DCs	Dendritic cells
DIP	Distal interphalangeal joint
DMARD	Disease modifying antirheumatic drug
ECRB	Extensor carpi radialis brevis
ECRL	Extensor carpi radialis longus
ECU	Extensor carpi ulnaris tendon
ED	Extensor digitorum tendons
EPB	Extensor pollicis brevis tendons

EPL	Extensor pollicis longus tendon
ERA	Early RA
ESR	Erythrocyte sedimentation rate
EULAR	European League Against Rheumatism
FCR	Flexor carpi radialis
FCU	Flexor carpi ulnaris
FD	Flexor digitorum
FDP	Flexor digitorum profundus
FDS	Flexor digitorum superficialis
FET	Finger extensor tendon
FFT	Finger flexor tendon
FLS	Fibroblast-like synoviocytes
FPL	Flexor pollicis longus
GC	Germinal center
GS	Gray-scale
HAQ	Health-Assessment Questionnaire
HLA	Human leucocyte antigen
IL	Interleukin
JSN	Joint space narrowing
MCP	Metacarpophalangeal joints
MHAQ	Modified health assessment questionnaire
MMPs	Matrix metalloproteinases
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging
MTJ	Myotendinous junction
MTP	Metatarsophalangeal joints
NLR	NOD like receptors

NOD	Nucleotide binding oligomerization domain
NSAIDs	Non steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
OA	Osteoarthritis
OMERACT	Outcome measures in rheumatoid arthritis trials
OTJ	Osteotendinous junction
PADI4	Peptidyl arginine deiminase, mainly of type IV
PD	Power Doppler
PDS	Power Doppler sonography
PIN	posterior interosseous nerve
PIP	Proximal interphalangeal
PRF	Pulse repetition frequency
PsA	Psoriatic arthritis
PTPN22	Protein tyrosine phosphates N22
RA	Rheumatoid arthritis
RAMRIS	RA-MRI scoring system
RANKL	Receptor activator of nuclear factor kappa B ligand
RF	Rheumatoid factor
SDAI	Simplified Disease Activity Index
SDD	Smallest detectable difference
SF	Synovial fluid
SH	Synovial hypertrophy
Th	T helper cells
TIMPs	Tissue inhibitors of metalloproteinases
TLRs	Toll like receptors
TNF-α	Tumor necrosis factor α
US	Ultrasound

VAS	Visual analogue scale
VEGF	Vascular endothelial growth factor

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